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It is prevented from rolling off from the fine-adjustment wheel by a horizontal wire, transverse to the axis of the apparatus, attached by a hinge-joint to a post at the side of the plank, and to a pin in the end of the wooden rod which just passes through the cylinder; and being retained not over the centre, but somewhat to one side of the wheel, loss of motion is simply impossible, and an extremely fine and manageable motion is secured. The unequalled facility and certainty with which this apparatus can be instantly laid upon the fine-adjustment wheel or turned back from it, is sufficiently evident.

MICROSCOPY AT THE ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM.—The Medical Society of the State of New York, one of the largest and most influential organizations of the kind in this country, at a recent meeting adopted a series of resolutions expressing its interest in and appreciation of the microscopical work of the United States Army Medical Museum at Washington. The Society approves, with some degree of enthusiasm, the methods of investigation, and of disseminating results, employed at the Museum, especially in regard to the study of healthy and diseased tissues; believing that the progress attained is of material use to the profession, and that it would be unattainable at present without the unusual facilities furnished by the Government.—R. H. W.

NOTES.

Mr. Boucard, the well known dealer in specimens of Natural History, and traveller, formerly living in Paris, but now resident in London, proposes the publication of a work on the Coleoptera of Mexico and Central America, including the adjacent portions of the United States, especially the Pacific region. He earnestly desires contributions of specimens, whether named or not, to be used in his investigations, and will return such as he is not permitted to keep, suitably identified, and will render an equivalent in other specimens, if desired, for such as are sent to him to be retained. Any specimens intended for him may be sent through the Smithsonian Institution, or direct to his establishment in London, 55 Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, W. G.

A rare opportunity of securing specimens of insects from Texas and Southern New Mexico, is now open to those interested. By reference to the advertising pages it will be seen that Mr. Belfrage is to make a long collecting journey through the above named region. We can recommend him as a faithful and excellent collector. His specimens arrive in excellent condition.

The excrements of bats from Egypt have recently become an article of trade as a sort of guano for manure.

It has been announced at the Royal Geographical Society that Livingstone has arrived at Ujiji on his return journey.—*Nature*.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. S. M.—The plants are:—1, *Utricularia purpurea*; 2, probably *Claytonia Virginica* (poor specimen); 3, *Sagittaria calycina* var. *spongiosa*; 4, *Spiraea*; 5, *Hydrocotyle Americana*; 6, *Phaseolus trilobus*.

A. G. H.—The cocoon of *Platysamia Cecropia* was filled with the cocoons (containing the perfect insects) of an Ichneumon.

W. O., Montreal.—Professor J. Leidy, Philadelphia, Professor A. E. Verrill, New Haven, and Professor H. J. Clarke, Lexington, Ky., are the only persons in this country who are engaged on the subject of internal parasites, so far as we are informed. Dr. Weinland has been in Germany for many years.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

A Concise Analytical and Logical Development of the Atmospheric System, and of the Elements of Prognostication, by which the weather may be forecasted, adapted to the Practical Mind of the Country. By Thomas B. Butler, author of the "Philosophy of the Weather." Revised Edition. Andrew Selleck, Norwalk, Conn. 1870. 12mo, pp. 405. Cloth.

Bulletin of the Museum Comparative Zoology, Vol. II, No. 2. Preliminary Report on the Crustacea Dredged in the Gulf Stream in the Straits of Florida. By L. F. de Pourtales, Assist. U. S. Coast Survey. Part I, Brachyura. By Dr. Wm. Stimpson, 1870. 8vo pamph., pp. 52.

Annual Report of the Surgeon General United States Army. 1870. 8vo pamph., pp. 10.

The Earthquake of October 20, 1870. By Principal Dawson, LL. D., F.R.S., etc. pp. 8. 1870. *Report on the Progress of the State Geological Survey of Michigan.* By Alexander Winchell, Director. Lansing, 1871. 8vo pamph., pp. 64.

Descriptions of Some New England Nudibranchiata. By A. E. Verrill. 8vo, pp. 4. Nov., 1870. *Report on the Geological Survey of the State of Iowa, to the 13th General Assembly, Jan., 1870, containing results of examinations made within the years 1866, 1867, 1868 and 1869.* By Charles A. White, M.D. 2 vols, cloth. Imperial 8vo, pp. 734. Plates and maps. Des Moines, 1870.

Report of an Inquiry in regard to Schools of Technical Science in certain portions of the United States. By J. G. Hodgkins and A. T. Machattie. 8vo pamph., pp. 34. Toronto, 1870.

Third Annual Report of the Natural History Club of Philadelphia. 1871. 8vo pamph., pp. 24. *Fourth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Fisheries of the State of Maine for the year 1870.* 8vo pamph., pp. 56. 2 plates.

Fifth Annual Report of the Commissioners of Inland Fisheries [of Massachusetts]. January, 1871. 8vo pamph., pp. 77.

On the Genesis of Species. By St. George Mivart, F.R.S. 12mo, cloth, pp. 296, illustrated. London. Macmillan & Co. 1871. [\$2.00.]

Honduras; Descriptive, Historical and Statistical. By E. G. Squier, M.A., F.S.A., etc. Issued by permission of the author, and under the authority of His Excellency Don Carlos Gutierrez, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Honduras in Great Britain. 12mo, cloth, pp. 278 and map. London. Trubner & Co. 1870.

Travels in Central America, including Accounts of Some Regions Unexplored since the Conquest. From the French of The Chevalier Arthur Morelet. By Mrs. M. F. Squier. Introduction and Notes by E. Geo. Squier. 12mo, cloth, pp. 430, illustrated. New York. Leypoldt, Holt & Williams, 1871.

Report of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario for the year 1870. [Including 1st Annual Report on Noxious Insects.] 8vo pamph., pp. 130. Toronto, 1871. [Gov. Doc.]